[12th December 1952

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The Government have no proposals for the amalgamation of the two districts. The Government are unable to build separate offices at Srikakulam this year owing to financial stringency, and the misconception may have arisen owing to this decision."

Protection to the fruit and vegetable gardens in Cuddapah district.

* 460 *Q.*—SRI P. NARASIMHA REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the District Food Production Advisory Committee, Cuddapah, requested the Government to protect the fruit and vegetable gardens and crops from monkey, flying fox and bird menace by destroying them;

(*b*) whether the Entomologist to the Government made any suggestions to destroy these pests; and

(*c*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" (*a*) At its meeting held on 31st October 1952, the Cuddapah District Food Production Committee resolved to address the Government to send parties for catching monkeys and sending them to other countries. The resolution was forwarded to Government on 9th December 1952 by the Collector.

" (*b*) The Government Entomologist, Coimbatore, has suggested to the local District Agricultural Officer certain methods for the control of monkeys, like trapping, shooting and catching and sterilizing. None of these is practicable. As regards bird menace, he has suggested that indigenous methods could be relied upon."

" (*c*) The matter is under examination."

Distribution of gifts from Russian and Chinese people.

* 461 *Q.*—SRI G. YELLAMANDA REDDY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the gifts of rice, wheat, money, etc., offered by Russian and Chinese people for famine relief are being distributed by the Government departmentally or through the Red-Cross Society in this State; and

(*b*) if so, how many gruel centres and other relief works are run by the Red-Cross Society in Nellore district?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) The distributing organization is the Indian Red-Cross Society and stocks are received by the Collector and used in the gruel centres.

" (*b*) The Red-Cross Society is not running any gruel centres or other relief works in the Nellore district."